

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY IO:JABAKER:DD

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

IO:SWLEWIS

NEA:ADAY

S/S: MR. ORTIZ

S:MR. AHERNE

----- 071787

Z 252057Z MAY 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY FLASH

S E C R E T STATE 128840 TOSEC 130272

NODIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, UNDOF

SUBJ: ACTION MEMORANDUM: UNDOF RENEWAL

(S/S NO. 7610786)

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM SISCO

REF: SECTO 13108 AND STATE 128826

1. WE AGREE FULLY THAT OUR OBJECTIVE ON UNDOF RENEWAL SHOULD BE A SIMPLE RESOLUTION OR CONSENSUS WITH NO EXTRANEIOUS LANGUAGE. THE SYG LETTER TO ASAD, WHICH HAS BEEN PASSED TO US PRIVATELY AND REPEATED TO YOU BY SEPTTEL, REFERS TO "THE RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS," RATHER THAN "ALL RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS." NEVERTHELESS REFERENCE TO THIS PHRASE AS WELL AS THE REFERENCE TO THE COMMITTEE OF 20 REPORT ARE OBJECTIONABLE; JUDGING BY THEIR NOTE VERBALE TO WALDHEIM AND BY CONVERSATIONS HERE WITH DINITZ ISRAELIS HOLD STRONG VIEWS IN THIS REGARD. DINITZ, LIKE US, APPARENTLY HAS A TEXT OF SYG LETTER

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PROVIDED WITHOUT SYG'S SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION.

2. AT THIS STAGE, THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR BEFORE SYG MEETS WITH ASAD THAT US CANNOT AGREE TO A CONDITIONED RENEWAL OF UNDOF AND THAT IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE IF RENEWAL RESOLUTION REFERS TO "RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS" AND TO FORTHCOMING SC DEBATE ON COMMITTEE OF 20 REPORT ON PALESTINE OR DIRECTLY TO SYG LETTER. ALTHOUGH GOV. SCRANTON HAS EXPRESSED OUR CONCERN TO SYG REGARDING HIS LETTER, IT IS ALL IMPORTANT THAT YOU GET A MESSAGE TO HIM OR ELSE HE MIGHT GET COMMITTED TO THE SYRIANS ON THE CONTENT OF A RESOLUTION. I AM REPORTING SEPTTEL A COMMUNICATION JUST SENT TO SYG BY ISRAELIS.

3. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU TRANSMIT A LETTER SO THAT WALDHEIM RECEIVES IT WHEN HE TRANSITS PARIS. HE WILL BE ARRIVING IN PARIS ON AIR FRANCE AT 11:00 P.M. PARIS TIME AND LAYING OVER ABOUT SIX HOURS AT THE AIRPORT HOTEL BEFORE LEAVING VERY EARLY IN THE MORNING FOR DAMASCUS BY CHARTERED PLANE.

4. RECOMMENDATION:

THAT YOU SEND FROM LONDON THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO WALDHEIM THROUGH EMBASSY PARIS.

QUOTE: TO PARIS FLASH

1. PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO UN SYG KURT WALDHEIM. WALDHEIM ARRIVES IN PARIS ON AIR FRANCE APPROXIMATELY 11:00 P.M. MAY 25. HE PLANS TO LAY OVER IN PARIS FOR SIX HOURS AT JACQUES BOREL HOTEL, DEPARTING FOR DAMASCUS 7:00 A.M., MAY 26, PARIS TIME BY CHARTERED AIRCRAFT. SYG WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY ROBERTO GUYER AND JAMES JONAH, EITHER OF WHOM COULD SERVE AS CONTACT.

2. TEXT OF MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

DEAR KURT,
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BEFORE YOU DISCUSS WITH PRESIDENT ASAD THE MATTER OF UNDOF RENEWAL, I THOUGHT IT DESIRABLE TO TELL YOU DIRECTLY OF MY VIEWS REGARDING THE ISSUE. IT IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR TO ME THAT ISRAEL WILL REFUSE TO AGREE TO THE RENEWAL OF UNDOF IN THE EVENT ANY CONDITIONS, EXPLICIT OR IMPLIED, ARE ATTACHED.

ACCORDINGLY, I MUST URGE YOU IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT ASAD NOT TO COMMIT YOURSELF TO ANY COURSE OF ACTION WITH RESPECT TO UNDOF RENEWAL WHICH COULD BE INTERPRETED AS CONDITIONING THAT RENEWAL.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE ISRAELIS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WILL REGARD AS UNACCEPTABLE ANY LINKING OF AN AGREEMENT TO RENEW THE UNDOF MANDATE EITHER TO POLITICAL CONDITIONS OR TO AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS OUTLINING ELEMENTS WHICH CAN BE INTERPRETED AS POLITICAL CONDITIONS ON RENEWAL.

IN THE PURSUIT OF OUR COMMON GOAL OF MAINTAINING UNDOF IN PLACE, I STRONGLY URGE THAT YOU AVOID ANY COMMITMENT TO PRESIDENT ASAD TO RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL, AS IT ADDRESSES THE QUESTION OF UNDOF RENEWAL, ANY LANGUAGE WHICH CAN BE INTERPRETED AS PLACING POLITICAL CONDITIONS ON RENEWAL. REFERENCES TO THE COMMITTEE OF 20 REPORT ON PALESTINE OR TO RELEVANT UN RESOLUTIONS OR TO CORRESPONDENCE CONTAINING SUCH LANGUAGE IN A SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION WOULD, IN OUR JUDGMENT, PRECLUDE THE CONTINUATION OF UNDOF.

THE EXTENSION OF UNDOF IS IN THE MUTUAL INTEREST OF BOTH SIDES. YOUR TRIP TO DAMASCUS AT ASAD'S REQUEST SHOULD WHEN TAKEN TOGETHER WITH AMERICAN ACTIVITIES AND COMMITMENT TOWARD THE GOAL OF A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, HELP TO ASSURE ASAD THAT RENEWAL OF UNDOF WILL BE IN CONTEXT OF ON-GOING EFFORTS TOWARD PEACE. FINALLY, THERE IS THE PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION THAT A CRISIS OVER UNDOF AT THIS TIME IS ANOTHER BURDEN WHICH WOULD BE ADDED TO DIFFICULTY OF CURRENT LEBANESE SITUATION.

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END TEXT.

5. IF YOU AGREE, SUGGEST YOU REPEAT THIS MESSAGE TO SCRANTON, MURPHY AND TOON.

6. APPROVED: P:JJSISCO; CONCURRENCES: IO:SWLEWIS;
NEA:ADAY; S:

SISCO

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NNN

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